In appropriate terms, to the loss which the Association and the Asylum Service had sustained since last meeting through the death of Dr. A. R. Turnbull. He stated that Dr. Turnbull had been Medical Superintendent of Fife District Asylum for the long period of thirty-four years, and that he had always taken a very active part in the work of the Association, having acted as Divisional Secretary for Scotland for several years, and that he was elected President of the Association in 1910, but, owing to ill-health, he was unfortunately prevented from undertaking the duties. The Chairman also referred to his many fine personal qualities. It was unanimously resolved that it be recorded in the Minutes that the members of the Scottish Division of the Medico-Psychological Association desire to express their deep sense of the loss sustained by the death of Dr. A. R. Turnbull, and their sympathy with his relatives in their bereavement. The Secretary was instructed to transmit an excerpt of the Minute to his relatives.

The Chairman also referred to the recent resignation of Dr. Carlyle Johnstone from the Medical Superintendentship of Roxburgh District Asylum, Melrose, a position which he had occupied for over thirty years, and he considered that such an event could not pass without the Division recognising the long and valuable services which Dr. Carlyle Johnstone had rendered in the interests of lunacy, and at the same time expressing the hope that he might be long spared to enjoy his well-earned retirement. It was unanimously resolved that the Secretary be instructed to send an excerpt of the Minute to Dr. Carlyle Johnstone.

The Minutes of the last divisional meeting were read and approved, and the Chairman was authorised to sign them.

Apologies for absence were intimated from Drs. Reid, Fraser, Parker, McRae, T. C. Mackenzie, Alexander, Shaw, Orr, Steele, and Crichlow.

The SECRETARY submitted a letter which he had received from Dr. R. B. Mitchell, thanking the members of the Division for their good wishes on his retirement from the Medical Superintendentship of Midlothian and Peebles District Asylum.

Drs. C. C. Easterbrook and L. R. Oswald were unanimously elected representative members of Council for the ensuing year, and Dr. R. B. Campbell was elected Divisional Secretary.

Dr. Hugh de M. Alexander was recommended to the Nominations Committee of the Council as an examiner for the Certificate in Psychological Medicine.

The following candidate, after ballot, was admitted to membership of the Association:

Alexander Ninian Bruce, M.D., D.Sc., F.R.C.P.E., Lecturer on Neurology, University of Edinburgh, 8, Ainslie Place, Edinburgh. (Proposed by Drs. Hotchkis, Buchanan, and Campbell.)

Major HOTCHKIS read an interesting paper describing Dykebar as a War Hospital, and he referred to the chief features of the cases of mental disease which had been admitted from the Expeditionary Forces during the past year. (A copy of the paper appears in the Journal.)

The members were afterwards conducted over part of the hospital by Major Hotchkis, when some of the most interesting cases were shortly described by Capt. Buchanan.

The CHAIRMAN thanked Major Hotchkis and his staff for the trouble which they had taken to make such an interesting and successful meeting, and a vote of thanks to the President for his presence in the chair concluded the business of the meeting.

After the meeting the members were kindly entertained to tea by Major and Mrs. Hotchkis.

No dinner was held after the meeting.

IRISH DIVISION.

THE SPRING MEETING of the Irish Division was held, by the kind invitation of Dr. J. O'C. Donelan, at the Richmond Asylum, Dublin, on Thursday, April 5th.

Members present: Dr. Drapes, Major W. R. Dawson, R.A.M.C., Drs. J. O'C. Donelan, Gavin, Mills, Rainsford, Forde, Irwin, Rutherford, Leeper (Hon. Sec.).

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Dr. Drapes, having been moved to the Chair, the minutes of the previous Meeting were read and signed. Letters of apology for unavoidable absence were read from Dr. M. J. Nolan, of Downpatrick; Dr. Hetherington, of Londonderry; and Dr. Greene, of Carlow; and some others, stating their regret at being prevented from attending. A letter of acknowledgment of the receipt of the resolution of condolence was received from Mrs. Kirwan, widow of the late Dr. Kirwan, of Ballinasloe Asylum, expressing her thanks for the sympathy of the members of the Irish Division in her bereavement.

The Meeting next proceeded to elect an Hon. Sec. and two Representative Members of Council for the ensuing year.

On a ballot being taken and a scrutineer being appointed, the CHAIRMAN announced that Dr. Leeper had been unanimously re-elected Hon. Sec. of the Division for the ensuing year, and Drs. Rainsford and Mills were unanimously elected Representative Members of the Council.

It was decided to accept Dr. Mill's kind invitation to hold the Summer Meeting of the Division at Ballinasloe Asylum.

The following dates were fixed for the meetings of the Division for the ensuing year:

Autumn Meeting, Thursday, November 1st, 1917.
Spring Meeting, Thursday, April 4th, 1918.
Summer Meeting, Thursday, July 4th, 1918.

It was proposed by Dr. RAINSFORD, and seconded by Dr. J. O'C. DONELAN, and passed unanimously, "that the Irish Division of the Medico-Psychological Association desires to place on record their sense of the admirable manner in which Dr. Leeper has discharged the duties of Hon. Sec. of the Division during the year."

Dr. LEEPER thanked the meeting for their most kind and flattering resolution. He regretted he was unable to serve them better, but should always do his best to discharge the duties of his office to the best of his ability, and thanked the members of the Division for their kindly support and help in the carrying on of the business of the Association.

On considering the question of the position of Irish Asylum officials under any new Irish legislative changes, it was proposed by Major DAWSON, and seconded by Dr. RAINSFORD, and passed unanimously, that a Committee be appointed, consisting of Drs. M. J. Nolan, O'Mara, J. O'C. Donelan, Gavin, and the Hon. Sec., "to consider the position of asylum officers as regards pension under a possible Home Rule Government, and to draw up a memorandum, expressing their views, to be forwarded to the Irish Members on both sides of the House of Commons and any other Members of Parliament likely to help."

Dr. J. O'C. DONELAN next gave a most interesting account of the War Hospital work of the Richmond Asylum.

The hospital was started in June, 1916, and 104 cases have so far been admitted, suffering from mental trouble due to three varieties of causation: (1) Patients who would have become insane in all probability in any case, having had previous attacks before the war; (2) patients with neurotic constitutions whose resistance to stress and war conditions was insufficient to ensure their remaining free from mental trouble; (3) patients whose condition was directly due to shell shock and stress of war conditions.

These cases of shell shock were usually merely confusional insanity passing into stupor, often of particular faculties.

Many interesting cases were recorded, and treatment by hot and cold baths and medicinal means were mentioned.

Dr. FORDE, who had had many opportunities of treating these cases, gave the meeting the benefit of his experiences. He regarded these cases of shell shock as due to a dislocation of the brain-cells. Hot and cold baths given alternately had produced good results in some cases of loss of the power of speech. Many cases are borderland cases of insanity. There was marked tremulousness of the musculature and shakings of the body, with profuse perspiration of the skin of the head. He had found a mixture of the bromides, together with antipyrin, and citrate of caffeine, gave great relief where headaches existed, and when the mixture was discontinued the men begged for its repetition. Fletcher's syrup of the hydrobromates was useful, and hastened recovery in some of the cases he had treated.

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Hallucinations of sight and hearing were sometimes present, but many of the cases were quite conscious of the hallucinations, and realised that they were abnormal, and were, therefore, not to be regarded as ordinarily insane patients suffering from hallucinatory states. Altogether it appeared that 56 patients out of the original 104 had been dealt with at the Richmond Asylum War Hospital. Of these 26 had been sent to other asylums, 12 had been sent home, and the balance had been able to resume their occupations. The patients were segregated from the other asylum inmates, and not certified insane.

Dr. LEEPER pointed out that so far as he understood the causation of shell shock was due to the sudden effect upon the blood vascular system by shell explosion, driving the blood of the body towards the nerve centres, and thereby disorganising or injuring them with sudden violence, or interfering with their functions.

Major W. R. DAWSON gave a most interesting account of cases of shell shock and cases resulting from war stress. These varied from cases of slight nervous disturbance, where men were easily startled by sudden sounds or noises, to the most serious breakdowns.

Cases in which excessive tremor was a cardinal symptom in patients suffering from traumatic neurasthenia, loss of speech, and hearing, and sight. Loss of sight appeared to be regained quicker than the loss of hearing or speech. It is often most difficult to restore the powers of speech. Some had got good results from treatment by hypnotism, but this had been found of little use in other hands. Major Dawson spoke of the great kindness and attention of Dr. Forde and Dr. Dwyer with regard to the wounded soldiers, which was beyond all praise.

The CHAIRMAN said that the members were much indebted to Dr. Donelan not only for the sketch he had kindly given them of the work done amongst the war sufferers in the Richmond Asylum, supplemented as it was by Dr. Forde's careful observations as regards the clinical aspect of some of these cases, but also for the very interesting discussion which followed, to which Major Dawson's large and varied experiences as specialist adviser in nervous diseases to the troops in Ireland were a most valuable contribution. He had not had much opportunity himself of observing cases of shell shock, as, although a few soldiers had been admitted into Enniscorthy Asylum during the past two years, some were very transient cases due to a bout of drinking: others had had previous attacks, and would probably have broken down under any stress, whether they were in the army or not. He thought that the military medical experience of the present war ought to go far towards finally disposing of the so-called theory of psycho-physical parallelism, as almost every possible symptom, whether purely somatic, nervous, or mental, was found to follow shock to the brain, so that it would be quite impossible to determine where "bodily" symptoms ended or mental began. They all were the results of similar causes, and there was no line of demarcation between them. A great many of these cases were, in their symtomatology, very much akin to hysteria, and similar treatment to that employed in hysterical cases would be likely to prove efficacious.

A cordial vote of thanks to Dr. J. O'C. Donelan for his hospitality and great kindness in entertaining the Division at the Richmond Asylum was passed by acclamation.

This terminated the proceedings.

SOUTH-WESTERN DIVISION.

THE SPRING MEETING of the above Division was held, by the kind permission of Dr. MacBryan, at 17, Belmont, Bath, on Friday, April 27th, 1917, at 2.30 p.m.

The following members were present: Drs. Aveline, Norman Lavers, MacBryan, Rutherford, and Bartlett, who acted as Hon. Divisional Secretary.

Dr. Aveline was voted to the Chair.

Letters of apology for non-attendance were received from Drs. Macdonald, Pope, Soutar, and Starkey.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed.

Dr. G. N. Bartlett was appointed as Hon. Divisional Secretary, Dr. Aveline very kindly expressing his willingness to undertake the duties in the event of the former being called for military duty.

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